

gated, organized, and gradually converted into a true *Echinorhynchus*. The latter is therefore formed within the primitive embryo like an Echinoderm in its *Pluteus*, or a *Nemertes* in its *Pilidium*. It rapidly increases in size, becoming twice or three times its former length, and finally fills the body of the embryo completely. The latter is not destroyed, but persists and becomes transformed to constitute the envelopes external to the muscular tube of the worm—envelopes which are distinguished, as has long been known, by the existence of a proper vascular system. The primitive cuticle and the bundles of spines disappear; but this slight moulting is a phenomenon of far less importance than the casting of the *Pilidium* by the young *Nemertes*.

When the cephalic armature of the *Echinorhynchus* is formed, it draws back into the posterior part of its body like a *Cysticercus* in its vesicle.

The number of these parasites is sometimes very considerable. Prof. Leuckart has counted as many as fifty or sixty in a single *Gammarus*; but in this case they often destroy their host.—*Nachrichten der kön. Ges. der Wiss. zu Göttingen*, Oct. 1862; *Bibl. Univ.* March 20, 1863, *Bull. Scient.* p. 245.

Note on the Animal of Lithotis rupicola.

By WILLIAM T. BLANFORD, A.R.S.M., F.G.S.

Since sending the descriptions of *Lithotis* and *Cremnobates* (see p. 184) I have obtained much finer specimens of the former shell from the same locality—the rocks of the Bhore Ghat. The animals being in full vigour, I had a better opportunity of observing them: those previously captured were æstivating and very sluggish. One or two of the characters previously noted require correction, and I have observed some additional particulars of interest.

The foot, during the monsoon, is rather longer than the shell, and oval, the head-lobe being separated by a groove. There is no trace of the lower pair of (true) tentacles; the upper pair, or eye-pedicels, are much swollen and mammiform towards the base. The upper jaw is horny and arcuate; the lower lip deeply cleft. Mantle closed, with the exception of a circular orifice at the end of the siphonal ridge in the shell.

The largest specimen I now possess measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ millimetres by 7, and is $3\frac{1}{2}$ mill. high.

Lithotis abounded upon the surface of the damp rocks. *Cremnobates* occurred only where water ran down the face of the cliff, thus confirming my expectation of the latter proving to be an amphibious rather than a terrestrial form.

Poona, Aug. 6, 1863.

Habits of the King-Crab (Polyphemus).

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

Several uses have been suggested for the elongated spine-like tail of this genus of Crustacea. They have several specimens alive in a shallow tank in the Liverpool Museum; and Mr. Moore showed me